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Special Political and Decolonization Committee
(Fourth Committee)
Agenda item 57
Comprehensive review of special political missions

Costa Rica, Finland, Italy, Latvia, Mexico, Paraguay, Slovenia, Sweden,
Switzerland and Thailand: draft resolution

Comprehensive review of special political missions

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 67/123 of 18 December 2012, 68/85 of 11 December 2013 and 69/95 of 5 December 2014 on the comprehensive review of special political missions,

Reaffirming its commitment to respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States,

Recalling the primary role of the United Nations and the respective roles and authority of the General Assembly and the Security Council in the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter, and recalling also in this context the contribution of regional and subregional arrangements, as appropriate,

Encouraging enhanced exchanges of information, in an appropriate manner, among the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretariat, on overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions,

Reaffirming the principles of impartiality, consent of the parties, national ownership and national responsibility, and stressing the significance of the views of and dialogue with countries hosting special political missions,

Recalling the relevant reports on the review of arrangements for funding and backstopping special political missions,¹ which addressed the financial and

* Reissued for technical reasons on 10 November 2015.

¹ A/66/340 and A/66/7/Add.21.



administrative arrangements pertaining to such missions, recognizing that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters,

Stressing the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the pacific settlement of disputes, including mediation, conflict prevention and conflict resolution, for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Acknowledging the significant increase in the number and complexity of special political missions and the challenges faced by them,

Recognizing the important role of the special political mission as a flexible tool for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing also the need for system-wide coherence between special political missions and the United Nations system, and emphasizing the importance of close cooperation between special political missions, peacekeeping operations and United Nations country teams for maintaining sustainable peace, conflict prevention and conflict resolution,

Recognizing further the need for special political missions to operate under clear, credible and achievable mandates, including through the articulation of their goals and purposes, and the need to review their progress as stipulated in their respective mandates,

Recognizing the importance of efforts towards improving broad geographical representation, gender balance and expertise in the composition of all special political missions,

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and recognizing the importance of the equal and effective participation and the full involvement of women at all levels, at all stages and in all aspects of the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and conflict resolution,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General² and the report of the High-level Independent Panel,³ and acknowledging their emphasis on the primacy of political solutions to conflicts,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 69/95;⁴

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to hold regular, inclusive and interactive dialogue on the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, and encourages the Secretariat to reach out to Member States prior to the holding of such dialogue to ensure wide and meaningful participation;

3. *Respects* the purview of the mandate of special political missions, as stipulated in the respective relevant resolutions, recognizes the specificity of each mandate of such missions, and emphasizes the role of the General Assembly in discussing the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions;

² A/70/357-S/2015/682.

³ See A/70/95-S/2015/446.

⁴ A/70/400.

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a timely report on the overall policy matters pertaining to special political missions, including efforts towards improving transparency, accountability, geographical representation, gender participation, expertise and effectiveness in respect of all special political missions, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to include relevant detailed information on these matters in the report;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of special political missions" and to consider the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General under that item.
